



First in India Females

IN THE GOVERNMENT

1.	First Woman President	Pratibha Patil
2.	First Woman Prime Minister	Indira Gandhi
3.	First Woman Governor	Sarojini Naidu (Uttar Pradesh)
4.	First Woman Chief Minister	Sucheta Kripalani (Uttar Pradesh)
5.	First Woman Union Minister	Rajkumari Amrit Kaur (Ministry of Health)

6.	First Woman Speaker of Lok Sabha	Smt. Meira Kumar (15 th Lok Sabha)
7.	First Woman Actress to be a member of Rajya Sabha	Nargis Dutt
8.	India's First full-time Woman Finance Minister	Nirmala Sitharaman
9.	India's First full-time Woman Defence Minister	

AWARD ACHIEVERS

10.	First Indian Woman to get Nobel Prize	Mother Teresa (Nobel Peace Prize, 1979)
11.	First Indian Woman to get Bharat Ratna	Indira Gandhi (1971)
12.	First Indian Woman Musician to get Bharat Ratna	M. S. Subbulakshmi (1998)
13.	First Indian Woman to get Jnanpith Award	Ashapurna Devi (1976) (Bengali Language)
14.	First Indian Woman to get Booker Prize	Arundhati Roy (1997) Novel : "The God of Small Things"

15.	First Indian Woman to get Sahitya Akademi Award	Amrita Pritam (1956) Sunehure (Poetry) in Punjabi
16.	First Indian Woman to get Oscar Award	Bhanu Athaiya (1983) (55 th Academy Awards for costume design in the film “Gandhi”)
17.	First Indian Woman to become “Miss World”	Reita Faria (1966)
18.	First Indian Woman to become “Miss Universe”	Sushmita Sen (1994)
19.	First Indian Woman to get Ashok Chakra	Neerja Bhanot (1987) (Awarded posthumously)

War Time Gallantry Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Param Vir Chakra, Mahavir Chakra, Vir Chakra 	Peace Time Gallantry Awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashoka Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Shaurya Chakra
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OFFICE HOLDERS

20.	First Woman IAS Officer	Anna Rajam Malhotra (1951)
21.	First Woman IPS Officer	Kiran Bedi
22.	First Woman Chairperson of UPSC	Rose Millian Bathew Kharbuli (1992-1996)

JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS

23.	First Female Supreme Court Judge	Justice Fathima Beevi
24.	First Female Judge in India	Anna Chandy
25.	First Female High Court Judge	
26.	First Female Advocate in India	Cornelia Sorabji

MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

27.	First Woman Fighter Pilot of IAF	Bhawana Kanth, Mohana Singh, Avani Chaturvedi
28.	First Woman Rafale fighter jet pilot	Shivangi Singh
29.	First Woman Air Marshal in IAF	Padmavathy Bandopadhyay (Padma Shri)
30.	First Woman IAF Officer to go to war	Gunjan Saxena (Kargil war, 1999)
31.	First Indian Woman Flight Engineer	Hina Jaiswal
32.	First woman Flight Test Engineer	Aashritha V Olety

33.	First Woman Jawan in the Indian Army	Shanti Tigga
34.	First Woman Lieutenant General of Indian Army	Dr. Punita Arora
35.	First Woman Indian Army Officer to Lead BRO Unit	Major Aaina Rana
36.	First Woman to be conferred with the Sword of Honour prize by the Indian Army	Captain Divya Ajith Kumar
37.	First Woman to become Director General of Police (DGP) of a State	Kanchan Chaudhary Bhattacharya

Challenging the Limits

38.	First Indian Woman to Climb Mount Everest	Bachendri Pal (1984)
39.	First Female Amputee to scale Mount Everest (India's as well as World's first)	Arunima Sinha (2013)
	First female amputee to climb Mount Vinson (the highest peak of Antarctica)	
	She also climbed Mount Kosciuszko (Australia), Mount Elbrus (Russia), Mount Kilimanjaro (Africa), Mount Aconcagua (South America)	
40.	First Indian Woman Mountaineer to scale the Seven Continental Peaks	Premlata Agrawal

41.	First Indian Woman to go to space	Kalpana Chawla
42.	First Indian Woman swim across the English Channel	Arati Saha (1959)
43.	First Indian Woman to have walked across the Gobi desert (1600 km)	Sucheta Kadethankar
44.	First Indian Woman to make a solo motorbike trip from Kanyakumari to Kashmir	Roshni Sharma

Sports

45.	First Indian Woman to win a Medal at the Paralympics (Silver)	Deepa Malik (2016)
46.	First Indian Woman to win a Paralympic Gold First Indian Woman to win 2 Paralympic Medals	Avani Lekhara (2021)
47.	First Indian Woman to win a Grand Slam Title First Indian Woman to win a WTA Singles Event	Sania Mirza

48.	First Indian Woman Cricketer to score a Century in T20 Internationals	Harmanpreet Kaur (2018)
49.	First Indian to win a gold medal at the IAAF World Under-20 Athletics Championships	Hima Das (2019) nicknamed Dhing Express
50.	First Indian Woman Shooter to win a Gold at the Asian Games	Rahi Sarnobat (2018)
51.	First ever Woman to be appointed to the ICC International Panel of Match Referees	GS Lakshmi (2021)

IAAF: International Association of Athletics Federations

MISCELLANEOUS

52.	First Woman Driver in Indian Railways	Surekha Yadav
53.	First Indian Woman to fly an Aircraft	Sarla Thukral
	First Indian Woman to earn a Pilot's License	
54.	First ever Woman pilot to cross the Atlantic Ocean and Pacific Ocean solo in a light sport aircraft	Aarohi Pandit

55.	First Woman Newsreader	Pratima Puri (in Doordarshan)
56.	First Indian Woman President of the UN General Assembly	Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
57.	First (Non-Indian) Woman President of INC	Annie Besant (1917)
58.	First Indian Woman President of INC	Sarojini Naidu (1925)



Hard work beats talent when
Talent doesn't work hard!